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1490, when he was in his forties. The impression is fine, in excellent preservation, and is the second state.

Although the Museum collection contains more than seventy other examples of van Meckenem's work, it was still incomplete without this rare and unusual portrait. H. P. R.

### Notes

DR. ARTHUR FAIRBANKS, Director of the Museum, will be absent during the summer on special leave.

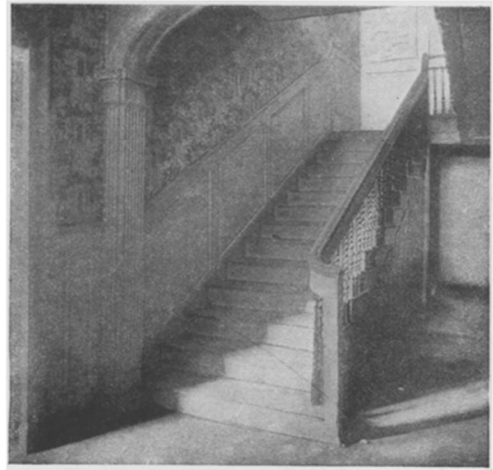
MR. FITZROY CARRINGTON, Curator of Prints, sailed on May 11 for a summer of study at the British Museum. Mr. Carrington will represent this Museum at the meeting of the Museums Association of England, to be held at Winchester July 6 to 8.

DR. ANANDA K. COOMARASWAMY, Keeper of Indian Art, has been given leave of absence for the year beginning June 1. Dr. Coomaraswamy will visit Japan, Java and India in the interest of the Museum and for study. It is believed that valuable acquisitions may be the result of his journey.

AT THE INVITATION of the Trustees, Mr. Jay Hambidge spoke in the Museum on the evening of May 13 upon the discoveries in the field of design to which he has given the name "Dynamic Symmetry." The talk was illustrated by lantern slides devoted to the geometrical basis of Mr. Hambidge's theories and to works of art illustrating them.

THE EXHIBITION OF HANDICRAFTS of the Old World, arranged at the suggestion of the National Civic Federation, closed on May 16. The thanks of the Museum are due to the Committee of the Women's Section of the New England Department, under the Honorary Chairmanship of Mrs. Nathaniel Thayer and the Chairmanship of Mrs. Livingston Cushing, which was active in gathering the objects displayed. The exhibition met with gratifying success. During the five weeks that it lasted the average daily attendance was 285. On the last afternoon a program of Russian folk songs was rendered by Mr. Sergei Adamsky.

A SPECIAL EXHIBITION of the work done by children from five to fourteen, under the direction of Miss Kallen, Miss Meehan and Miss Greenberg, was held in the Water-color Room of the Evans Galleries May 22 to June 4. It may safely be said that few visitors were prepared for the beauty of some of these designs, for the originality of many more, and for the capacity displayed in all of them. Miss Kallen has been asked by the Zionist Organization of America, in pursuance of a request from the Board of Education in Palestine, to devote the next two years to superintending similar work among the children of Palestine, and expects to leave for her new field in the late summer. Miss Kallen's work will be continued here by Miss Greenberg and Miss Meehan.



*Stairway*

*Jaffrey House, Portsmouth, N. H.*

### The Jaffrey House

IN acquiring portions of the interior fittings of the Jaffrey house, in Portsmouth, the Museum has taken an important step toward a collection of the decorative art of the Colonial period in this country. The actual rooms in which the furniture, utensils and ornaments of the period were used form their most appropriate background in a Museum. Besides the portions of the Jaffrey house acquired by purchase, a stairway received by gift and an interior received on loan will be used for this purpose. The stairway is the gift of Miss Marian R. Case in behalf of the grandchildren of Moses Williams, and the room came from the Penney-Hallett House, built early in the nineteenth century, and has been loaned by the Society for the Preservation of New England Antiquities.

The Jaffrey house was built in 1730 by George Jaffrey, Jr. (1683-1749), who graduated from Harvard in 1702 and became Treasurer of the Province of New Hampshire and Chief Justice of the Supreme Court. He was the son of George Jaffrey, merchant and ship-owner (born Newbury, 1637; died Portsmouth, 1706). The house became later the home of George Jaffrey, 3rd (1716-1802), and was bequeathed by him to his nephew, George Jaffrey Jeffries of Boston (1799-1856), on condition that the beneficiary should drop his surname and come to Portsmouth to live in the Jaffrey house, following no profession but that of gentleman.

The house is an early example in the Georgian manner, showing the adaptation of English contemporary style, but expressed in wood, the material most easily obtained in the Colonies. It is the earliest eighteenth century house of wood in Portsmouth, and dates but ten years later than the famous Warner house, which was built of brick believed to have been imported. The house has been neglected, and its exterior has suffered especially. There were rooms of excellent panelling, and with the fine stairway these have been removed and will be set up in the Museum whenever proper accommodations can be provided. E. J. H.